

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00011 032059Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 /121 W

----- 011691

R 031948Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6522

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0011

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBK: CDB RESUMES EFFORT TO FIND PRESIDENT

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1699 OF DEC 13, 1973

TO AID FOR VENEZIA

1. ACTING CDB PRESIDENT ROY A. JONES TOLD EMBOFF JAN 3 THAT CDB EXTRAORDINARY BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING WILL RECONVENE IN KINGSTON JAN 25 IN EFFORT TO NAME NEW CDB PRESIDENT. MEETING ADJOURNED TEMPORARILY DEC 9 WHEN HOPES OF OBTAINING SERVICES OF G. ARTHUR BROWN, GOJ CENTRAL BANK HEAD WERE APPARENTLY DASHED. KONES IS HOPEFUL THAT MEETING WILL RESULT IN DEFINITE NOMINATION ALTHOUGH HE COMPLAINED THAT POLITICAL NATURE OF JOB MADE IT DIFFICULT TO FORECAST ACCURATELY.

2. KONES MODESTLY AGREED WITH SPECULATION THAT NAMED HIM AS LEADING CONTENDER FOR TOP CDB JOB. HE STATED THAT BANK SEEMED TO HAVE LITTLE OR NO CHANCE OF OBTAINING BROWN AND NOTED THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN SAID OF CARICOM SECRETARY DEMAS FOR CDB POST
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PAGE 02 BRIDGE 00011 032059Z

SINCE DEMAS DISCLAIMED ANY INTEREST IN JOB IN SEPTEMBER.

JONES ADMITTED THAT HIS NOMINATION WOULD INVOLVE CONSIDERABLE SHIFTING OF TOP CDB POSTS TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL BALANCE BUT SAID HE HAD NO SPECIFIC CHANGES IN MIND SHOULD HE BECOME PRESIDENT.

3. WITH REGARD TO ANNUAL AID REVIEW, JONES HOPED THAT HIS SUGGESTED DATE OF FEB 25 WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR AID. JONES EXPLAINED THAT HE WOULD BE VERY OCCUPIED UNTIL BOARD MEETING ON FEB 14 AND 15 AND WOULD HOPE TO HAVE DRAFT OF CDB ANNUAL REPORT IN HAND BY 25TH. JONES SAID IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO RECEIVE AID QUESTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. JONES SAID THAT 1973 HAD SEEN CONSIDERABLE BANK ACTIVITY, NOTING THAT SDAF DISBURSEMENTS AMOUNTED TO ABOUT US\$503,000 AS OF DEC 20. JONES SAID THAT, DESPITE OCCASIONAL CRITICISM OF CDB DISBURSEMENT POLICIES, (MOSTLY IN SMALLER TERRITORIES), NO CARIBBEAN TERRITORY HAD UNSUCCESSFULLY APPLIED FOR CDB MONEY IN 1973. HE STRESSED THAT CDB DID INSIST THAT PROJECT PLANS BE IN ORDER BEFORE DISBURSEMENTS MADE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS ONLY LOGICAL AND PRUDENT POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT BANK TO PURSUE.DONOVAN

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